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December 15 2010 Meeting Minutes

Arlington Human Rights Commission Minutes – Final December 15, 2010

Present: Sheri Baron, Marliisa Briggett, Christine Carney, Vita Cohen, Gary Horowitz, Jorge Loayza, Nick Minton, Chair Nancy Rhoads, Marlene Schultz, Bill Shea, Nancy Sweeney

Absent: Vice Chair Stacy Davison, Suzie Talukdar

Open Forum –

No guests this evening

Review of November Minutes – Minutes accepted

Incidents – Complaints –

Chair Rhoads gave an overview of the threat of protesters that did not show at the Laramie Project performance in Arlington on November 4th. Chair Rhoads, Chief Ryan, School Committee Chair Curro, Selectmen Chair, Mahon, Rev. Swain and the ACT/ACA responded quickly to a message from the ADL of that possibility and together they came up with a plan of non-react. Chair Rhoads has made contact with a Lexington resident who offered to train Arlington residents on how to best respond to any future protests of this kind.

No further incidents were reported.

Civil Discourse Update

Chair Rhoads reported on the well-attended follow-up meeting on December 9th. After much discussion a small core group was formed to meet on January 6th to begin working on publicity and the media and assuring to have a unified voice. The Chair will keep the commission posted on future meetings and decision.

Reports –

Schools – Chair Rhoads reported on her meeting with Supt. Bodie and the concern for the school deficit.

Other Business –

Chair Rhoads reminded commissioners of the Wednesday, January 26th meeting at the Community Safety Room with other town groups to create goals. The meeting is set for Wednesday, January 26th at 7:30 at the Community Safety Room.

If the plan goes well, the non-violence training meeting will be scheduled for sometime in February.

Chair Rhoads was re-elected Chair for one more year. Congratulations and thank you for all the time and efforts you continue to give to carry on the mission of the Human Rights Commission.

The Chair has asked the Commission to consider how to move forward with the Stand Against Racism, which will be on the agenda for next month.

Motion to adjourn was made and approved.

Submitted by:
Marylynn Carnell
Staff Assistant